a.) Amendment to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph at page 36, lines 1-15 to read as follows.

Compound 2 [2-amino-1,3-bis(1,3-di-*O*-benzyl-2-glyceroxy)propane] was prepared according to the method of Nemoto *et al.* [*J. Med. Chem.*, 38, 1673 (1995)]. Diisopropylethylamine (10.5 ml, 60.0 mmol), a DMF solution (20 ml) of Compound 2 (19.8 g, 33.0 mmol) and ~~benzotriazol-1-yloxytris(pylidino)phosphonium~~ benzotriazol-1-yloxytris(pyrrolidino)phosphonium hexafluorophosphine (PyBOP; 15.6 g, 30.0 mmol) were added to a dimethylformamide (DMF) solution (50 ml) of Compound 1 (3.5 g, 15.0 mmol) in this order at room temperature, followed by stirring at the same temperature for 15 hours. The reaction solution was poured into 5% aqueous potassium hydrogensulfate solution, followed by extraction with ethyl acetate. The organic layer was washed with a saturated aqueous sodium hydrogencarbonate solution and a saturated brine in this order, dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate and then filtered. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (hexane:ethyl acetate = 3:2) to give Compound 3 (18.7 g, yield 89%) as pale yellow oil. ^{1}H-NMR ($CDCl_3$, 300MHz) δ (ppm): 1.36 (9H, s), 3.40-3.81 (32H, m), 4.16 (2H, m), 4.48 (16H, s), 7.19-7.31 (40H, m).

Please amend the paragraph at page 60, lines 11-18 to read as follows.

~~(2-Maleimido)carbamic~~ (2-Maleimido)ethylcarbamic acid *tert*-butyl ester (48 mg, 0.2 mmol) was dissolved in a mixed solvent of trifluoroacetic acid and dichloromethane (30:70, 5 ml), followed by stirring at 0°C for 2 hours, and then the reaction solution was concentrated. The thus obtained residue was dissolved in

dichloromethane (20 ml) and a saturated aqueous sodium hydrogencarbonate solution (10 ml) was added thereto to separate the layers. The organic layer was dried over potassium hydrogencarbonate and filtered. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure to give 1-(2-aminoethyl)-3-pyrroline-2,5-dione (28 mg, 0.2 mmol, yield 100%).